

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS
FOR
PROPOSED BUILDING STANDARDS
OF THE
DIVISION OF THE STATE ARCHITECT – STRUCTURAL SAFETY (DSA-SS & DSA-SS/CC)

REGARDING THE 2019 CALIFORNIA ELECTRICAL CODE
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 3**

2019 CALIFORNIA ELECTRICAL CODE

The Administrative Procedure Act (APA) requires that an Initial Statement of Reasons be available to the public upon request when rulemaking action is being undertaken. The following information required by the APA pertains to this particular rulemaking action:

STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC PURPOSE, PROBLEM, RATIONALE and BENEFITS:

2019 edition of the California Electrical Code:

The Division of the State Architect (DSA) proposes to repeal the 2014 edition of the National Electrical Code (NEC), and adopt the 2017 edition of the National Electrical Code (published by the National Fire Protection Association) for codification and effectiveness as the 2019 California Electrical Code. DSA proposes this action in order to comply with state law requiring state agencies to adopt the latest edition model code within one year of the publication date.

Building standards proposed by DSA-SS (Division of the State Architect – Structural Safety) for adoption would be applicable to public elementary and secondary schools, community colleges, and state-owned or state-leased essential services buildings.

This proposal will also make effective the 2017 edition of the NEC as the 2019 edition California Electrical Code, for application by DSA-SS/CC (Division of the State Architect - Structural Safety/Community Colleges) to community colleges, which a community college district may elect to use in lieu of standards promulgated by DSA-SS per Education Code Section 81053.

The 2017 edition of the NEC includes usability features as aids to the user. Changes other than editorial are indicated with gray shading within sections, and an entire figure caption with gray shading indicates a change to an existing figure. New sections, tables, and figures are indicated by a bold, italic ***N*** in a gray box to the left of the new material. An ***N*** next to an Article title indicates that the entire Article is new. Where one or more complete paragraphs have been deleted, the deletion is indicated by a bullet (●) between the paragraphs that remain.

No new DSA amendments to the 2017 edition NEC are being proposed by DSA-SS or DSA-SS/CC. State administrative amendments contained in CEC Article 89 are being continued with editorial changes proposed as noted below.

California Article 89 (General Code Provisions):

Section 89.101.1 (Title) - Editorial amendment to bring up-to-date reference to the 2017 NEC by deleting reference to the 2014 NEC and replacing with 2017 NEC.

Section 89.101.7.3 Exception – Editorial changes.

Section 89.101.8.1 – Editorial changes.

Section 89.109.2.1 – Editorial changes.

Section 89.109.2.2 – Correct incorrect reference to “...Part 2, Section 1.9.2.2.”

TECHNICAL, THEORETICAL, AND EMPIRICAL STUDY, REPORT, OR SIMILAR DOCUMENTS:

No technical, theoretical, or empirical studies or reports were used, as Section 18928 of the Health & Safety Code mandates this proposed action.

STATEMENT OF JUSTIFICATION FOR PRESCRIPTIVE STANDARDS:

No new prescriptive standards are proposed.

CONSIDERATION OF REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES

DSA has not considered any reasonable alternatives to the proposed action, as this action is required by law.

REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES THE AGENCY HAS IDENTIFIED THAT WOULD LESSEN ANY ADVERSE IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESS.

DSA has not identified any reasonable alternatives to the proposed action, and no adverse impact to small business due to these proposed changes is expected.

FACTS, EVIDENCE, DOCUMENTS, TESTIMONY, OR OTHER EVIDENCE OF NO SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE IMPACT ON BUSINESS.

DSA has no evidence indicating any potential significant adverse impact on business with regard to the proposed action.

ASSESSMENT OF EFFECT OF REGULATIONS UPON JOBS AND BUSINESS EXPANSION, ELIMINATION OR CREATION

DSA has assessed whether or not and to what extent this proposal will affect the following:

- ☐ The creation or elimination of jobs within the State of California.

DSA has determined that this proposed action has no effect.

- ☐ The creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the State of California.

DSA has determined that this proposed action has no effect.

- ☐ The expansion of businesses currently doing business with the State of California.

DSA has determined that this proposed action has no effect.

- ☐ The benefits of the regulation to the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the state's environment.

DSA has determined that proposed regulatory action would have no adverse effect on the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the state's environment.

ESTIMATED COST OF COMPLIANCE, ESTIMATED POTENTIAL BENEFITS, AND RELATED ASSUMPTIONS USED FOR BUILDING STANDARDS

DSA estimates no costs as Section 18928 of the Health and Safety Code mandates the adoption of the most recent addition of the model code.

DUPLICATION OR CONFLICTS WITH FEDERAL REGULATIONS

The regulations do not duplicate or conflict with federal regulations.